

March 2016

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# bead STYLE

**BEAD  
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*Spring jewels*

**91** fresh  
designs &  
expert tips  
for you!

Sea glass  
necklace  
p.30

## PLUS

- 2 chain mail techniques
- sell jewelry in any season
- rock the classic Y-necklace

**BONUS  
ONLINE  
CONTENT  
CODE**

PAGE 4

Vol. 14 • Issue 2



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by  
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next piece.



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- Crimp cover
- French (bullion) wire
- Overhand knot
- Square knot
- Tassels
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- And many more!

## PLUS

- Visit our Bead Room blog for the latest news and trends.
- Get tips on making, selling, and displaying your jewelry.
- See resources like our Reader's Glossary and Gemstone Spotlight.
- Find inspiration in our special series like Bride Style.

## NATURE-INSPIRED JEWELRY: Featured contributors



**Jane Danley Cruz**

### Stitch spring blooms (p. 24)

Jane is a former associate editor for *Bead&Button* magazine and is currently working on a book for beginning beaders.



**Diane Dick**

### Custom clay pendant (p. 28)

Diane loves working with clay and mixed metals "as a vehicle to practice 'mindfulness.' Appreciating the present moment can be a rare treat."



**Lia Ketskovei**

### Waves of glass (p. 30)

An architect by day, Lia has been an avid beader since moving to the U.S. from the country of Georgia. She also loves knitting and sewing.



**Kaye Kraus**

### Czech leaves bracelet (p. 26)

Kaye has been expressing herself through art in many mediums since she was a child. Her latest obsessions are beading and knotting.



**Cheryl Parrott**

### Twisted floral necklace (p. 20)

Cheryl worked as a stained glass artist for 30 years before she learned wire skills. She enjoys sharing her love of beading with her grandchildren.

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## Thank you from Bead Style

### It's hard to say goodbye.

But after 12 years of bringing you fast, fashionable, and fun jewelry designs, it's time for the party to wind down.

We at Team Bead Style have poured our hearts into our brand. Our mission: To inspire and inform you with our projects, columns, tips, and advice. We loved finding that perfect strand of beads, introducing you to new designers, and sharing our love of all things jewelry. We loved hearing from you and seeing your work.

While I'm sad to see *Bead Style* magazine come to an end, I'm grateful to have been a part of the first issue and this, our last. And I'm a big believer that endings are also beginnings. So instead of goodbye, let's say, *until next time*. Thank you for being our reader.

Enjoy this final issue of *Bead Style*. And remember to always bead happy.

naomi

editor@beadstylemag.com

You'll still have access to great web content at [BeadStyleMag.com](http://BeadStyleMag.com).



Our very first cover necklace, designed by Linda Augsburg for the September 2003 issue.

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# Bead Talk

INSPIRATION • TIPS • TRENDS • NEW PRODUCTS • COMMUNITY



## All aflutter with lampwork beads!

Sharon Mullins enjoys the thrill of the hunt for the finest lampwork beads to use in her designs, and often works with glass artists to bring her own vision to life. These lightweight butterfly wings were created by Kim Snider ([facebook.com/mandrel2](https://www.facebook.com/mandrel2)). Sharon is a member of SRJAD, an international organization for self-representing artists in jewelry design. See more of her work at [beadzandmore.com](http://beadzandmore.com).

## Fabulous fibers

Woven, knotted, or strung, fibers add a dynamic twist to today's jewelry designs. Here's how a few creative designers are exploring jewelry making's softer side.

Look  
what our  
readers  
made!



**Elizabeth Forster**  
Barrie, Ontario, Canada  
[elleandbellejewelry.etsy.com](http://elleandbellejewelry.etsy.com)

Elizabeth adorns semisoft trim rope with colorful wrapped cord, knots, and sleek finishings for casual elegance.



**Holly Louen**  
Green Valley, Arizona  
[tuscanroad.etsy.com](http://tuscanroad.etsy.com)

Sari silk made by women co-ops in India and Nepal is wire-wrapped over recycled, handspun silk yarn in Holly's fair trade bangles.



**Fernando DaSilva**  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
[johnbead.com](http://johnbead.com)

From zebra stripes to circus brights, Fernando embellishes decorative tapestry cord with whimsical metal components for festive wrap bracelets.





## Trend to try

# On the fringes

Fringe is everywhere, adorning handbags, boots, and sleeves. But it's especially wearable in jewelry, where you can find it in materials ranging from seed beads to leather. Make your own symmetrical fringe necklace (instructions on page 42).



For a tapestry of texture, **Jessica Franzen** color blocks seed beads in dangling earrings. [papavier.etsy.com](http://papavier.etsy.com)



**Natalie Barela's** hammered bronze fringe moves freely on a steel frame. [newrefinedbasics.etsy.com](http://newrefinedbasics.etsy.com)



**Eva Kryzanek** mixes different finishes and textures of vintage chain in a dramatic bib. [holynspired.etsy.com](http://holynspired.etsy.com)



**Lizzie Romanstine** creates a geometric chevron with beaded leather fringe. [nativerainbow.etsy.com](http://nativerainbow.etsy.com)



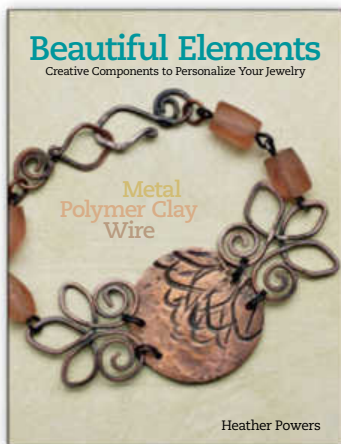
**Whitney Steinbrecher** surrounds sleek gold wire with organic quartz crystals. [oodalolliishop.etsy.com](http://oodalolliishop.etsy.com)

## Bead reads

### **Beautiful Elements: Creative Components to Personalize Your Jewelry**

by **Heather Powers**

Founder of the popular Art Bead Scene blog, Heather Powers puts her signature mixed-media spin on jewelry in a book filled with terrific projects. The techniques are ingenious yet doable: patterned polymer clay beads, "sketching" on metal sheet, and texturing your own bead caps and rings. You'll learn to cut copper leaves (no saw required!) and make floral head pins. With plenty of projects, templates, and charts, the book delivers both inspiration and instruction.

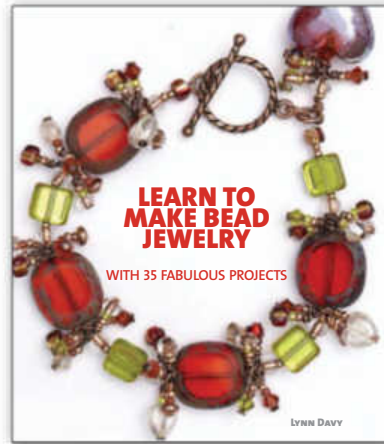


112 pp., \$22.99

### **Learn to Make Bead Jewelry with 35 Fabulous Projects**

by **Lynn Davy**

Veteran beader Lynn Davy offers a collection of projects organized by natural landscapes: Cool ocean and sandy beach palettes translate to simple beginner projects. Explore the grey mountain and fiery volcano-inspired hues in more challenging pieces. The book boasts an impressive array of materials: glass, gemstones, pearls, and handmade beads, spurring you to fashion everything from seed-bead leaves to a scalloped collar.



112 pp., \$21.99



## Naomi knows

### How to design with the Color of the Year

Pantone's Color of the Year is a blending of two soft shades, Rose Quartz and Serenity. Here are a few ways to translate the look into jewelry.



Frida Chen wires briolettes together to create delicate blossoms; the design encourages the individual colors to shine.



In Fernando DaSilva's seed bead necklace, blue provides a pop of color against the warm, neutral-leaning pinks and browns.



For balance, Roxie Moede includes smaller rounds in lighter colors to make a harmonious whole.

---

## Perfectly natural

If you're looking to add a natural element to your jewelry making, why not try wood beads and chain? Made from woods indigenous to the Philippines such as robles and palm, they lend an earthy touch and blend especially well with metals and fiber. Mix chain styles and sizes for an eclectic look. [margola.com](http://margola.com)





# New products in spring palettes



## Hand-painted blossoms

Crafted in small, intimate batches by Heather French, these hand-colored acrylic art beads are as lovely as a spring garden. Each batch is created like a painting and no two are exactly alike. [facebook.com/vintage-meadow-artworks](https://facebook.com/vintage-meadow-artworks)



## Ceramic floral art

Beautiful colors, dozens of fanciful designs, interesting shapes; these handmade ceramic beads and pendants from Golem Design Studio add life to any jewelry design. Winners of the 2015 Bead Dreams Handmade Buttons and Beads category, Vladislav and Kremena Ivanova hand craft these delights in their Bulgarian studio. [golemstudio.com](http://golemstudio.com)



## Graphic fabric

New from Swarovski: Fabric made from tiny crystals on which you can print graphics such as pictures, logos, or lettering. Elastic, tear resistant, and light, the fabric can be printed underneath, on top of the crystals, or a combination of both, resulting in a sparkling 3D surface.

[professional.swarovski.com](http://professional.swarovski.com)



## Botanical buttons

Patterns from nature adorn hand-painted Czech glass buttons from Aria Design Studio. Use them as closures for necklaces and bracelets, or pick one to embellish a gorgeous silk ribbon and wear it as a wrap bracelet. [ariadesignstudio.com](http://ariadesignstudio.com)



## Embellished leather

Elevate your stringing: Make the ultimate wrap bracelets with 10 mm "ornate" leather and 5 mm vintage and studded styles. [bestbeads.com](http://bestbeads.com)



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**Valerie Morris**  
Vancouver, BC, Canada  
goodmedicinegemstone.etsy.com



**Denise Conradsen**  
Lake Forest, California  
originalsbydenise.etsy.com

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# Fun fibers on memory wire

With a handful of beads, you can wrap up a memory wire cuff in minutes. Use up your stash or buy an assortment of big glass beads like I did. For added visual interest, ruffle up some sheer or satin ribbon. Then make a bunch of these budget-friendly bracelets!

– Tomeka Roulhac



Save some leftover beads for matching earrings. If you prefer your earrings with smaller beads, try Czech glass or crystals. Add a chain link or jump ring as a design element.



**1** **bracelet** • Using heavy-duty wire cutters, cut two coils of memory wire. Using roundnose pliers, make a loop on one end. String four or five 8–13 mm beads and 10 to 12 6° seed beads. Repeat the pattern.



**2** To make a ruffle: Cut an 11–15-in. (28–38 cm) piece of ribbon. About ¼ in. (6 mm) from one end, use the memory wire to pierce the ribbon. Folding and twisting the ribbon, continue stringing it on the memory wire. Apply Fray Check to the ends.



**3** Shape the ruffle as desired. String 10 to 12 6° seed beads and four or five 8–13 mm beads. Repeat the pattern. Make a loop and trim the excess wire. \*

## Tip

The beads' size and weight will stretch the memory wire slightly. So use memory wire with a smaller diameter than your finished bracelet size.

Contact Tomeka at [tlrpink08@yahoo.com](mailto:tlrpink08@yahoo.com) or visit [instagram.com/tomeka\\_cntrygrl](https://www.instagram.com/tomeka_cntrygrl).

## What you'll need

### bracelet 2¼-in. (5.7 cm) diameter

- ♦ 16–20 8–13 mm beads
- ♦ 40–48 6° seed beads
- ♦ memory wire, 2-in. (5 cm) diameter
- ♦ 11–15 in. (28–38 cm) ribbon, ⅝-in. (1.6 cm) width
- ♦ roundnose pliers
- ♦ heavy-duty wire cutters
- ♦ scissors
- ♦ Dritz Fray Check

### earrings

- ♦ 4 8–10 mm beads
- ♦ 2 4 mm beads
- ♦ 2 6–8 mm chain links or jump rings
- ♦ 2 2-in. (5 cm) head pins
- ♦ pair of earring wires
- ♦ 2 pairs of chainnose pliers
- ♦ roundnose pliers
- ♦ diagonal wire cutters

Check your local bead store for supplies. To find the nearest store, visit [beadshopfinder.com](http://beadshopfinder.com).

*Mad for memory wire?*

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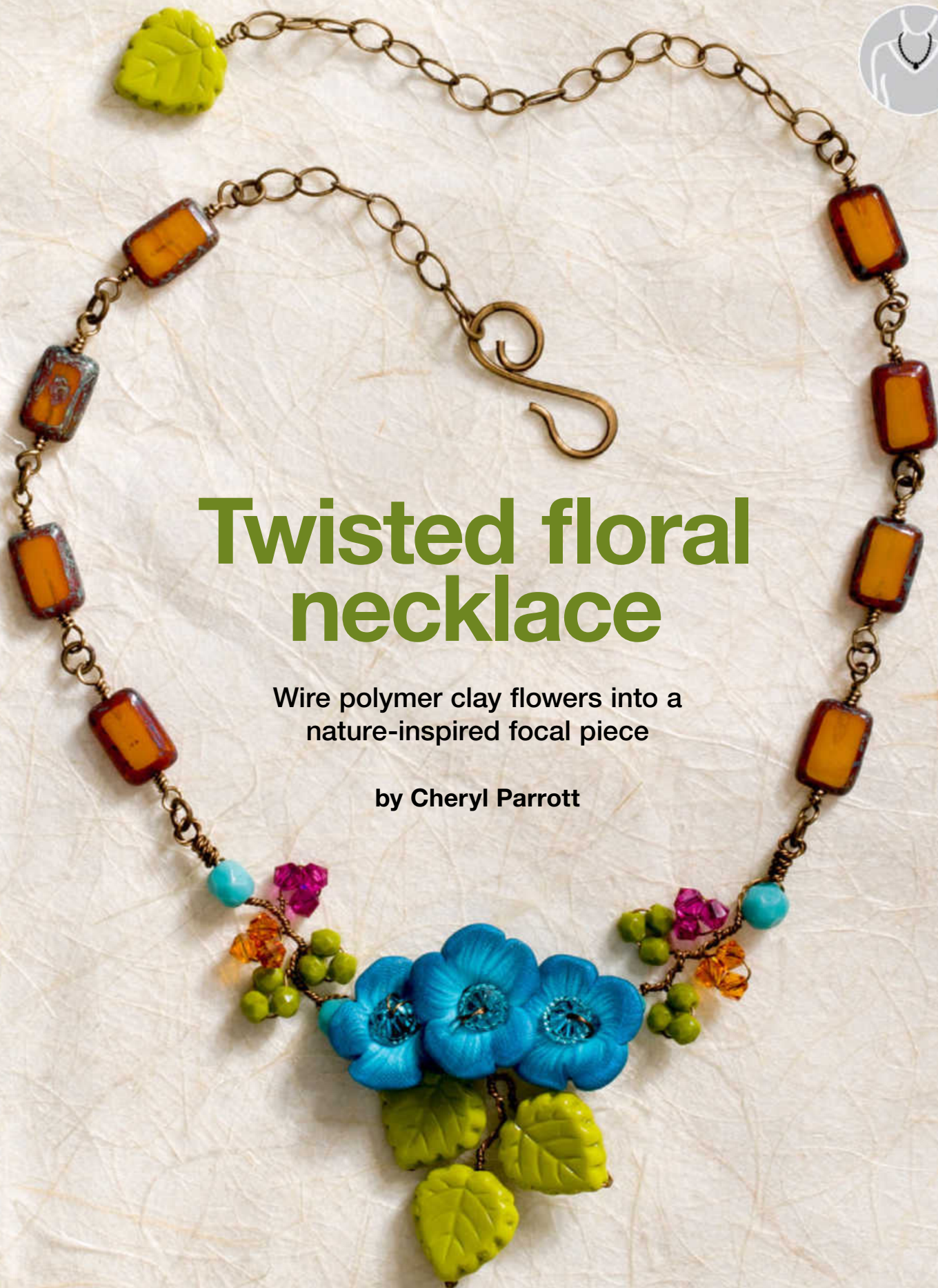




# Twisted floral necklace

Wire polymer clay flowers into a  
nature-inspired focal piece

by Cheryl Parrott



Joyfully, the solace I feel while gardening carries over into creating beautiful floral jewelry designs. When I decided to make a vine necklace, I discovered that twisting four wires instead of two looked more like tree bark, and my designs evolved to reflect the flowers and greenery in my garden.



**1** centerpiece • Cut four 32-in. (81 cm) pieces of 26-gauge wire. Separate the wires into pairs, and cross one pair over the other, forming a V. These will be referred to as top and bottom wires. Twist the pairs together for 1½ in. (3.8 cm) (see “8 wire-twisting musts,” p. 23).

**2** About ⅛ in. (3 mm) before the V, using the twisted wires, make a wrapped loop (see Basics, p. 60). Trim and tuck the excess wire.

**3** String a 6 mm crystal on the bottom wires, snugging it to the V. Twist the top wires together around the bead, then twist the pairs together for ¼ in. (6 mm). This is the vine.

**4** On one strand of the top wires, string three color A 4 mm bicone crystals. Holding the beads ⅛ in. (2 mm) from the vine, form a loop and cross the wires at the base of the loop. Twist the beads a few times, forming a branch.

**5** Twist both pairs of wires for ⅛ in. (3 mm). On one of the bottom wires, string three color B 4 mm bicone crystals. Form a branch as in step 4. Twist both pairs of wires together for ⅛ in. (3 mm).

**6** Repeat steps 4 and 5 using two groups of 4 mm round crystals instead of bicones, twisting both pairs of wires together about ¼ in. (6 mm) after the last group.

**7** On the longest pair of wires, string a 6 mm round crystal. Twist the other pair of wires together around the bead, then twist both pairs of wire together for ¼ in. (6 mm).

**8** On the longest pair of wires, string a flower and a 6 mm bicone crystal. Go back through the flower, snugging the beads. Make two tight wraps around where the flower meets the vine.

**9** Twist both pairs of wires together for ⅜ in. (1 cm). Repeat step 8 to add another flower.

**10** To add the leaves: On the longest pair of wires, string a leaf bead ¾ in. (1.9 cm) from the vine.

Form a loop around the leaf. Holding the leaf, twist the wires together for ⅝ in. (1.6 cm).

**11** Add a second leaf as in step 10, positioning it about ⅜ in. (1 cm) from the branch. Twist the wires for ⅛ in. (3 mm). Add a third leaf so it hangs evenly with the first leaf. Twist the wires to the main vine.

**12** Twist both pairs of wires ⅜ in. (1 cm). On the longest pair of wires, add a flower and 6 mm bicone as in step 8. Twist both pairs of wires together for ¼ in. (6 mm).





13



14



15



16

**13** On the shortest pair of wires, string a 6 mm round. Twist the remaining pair of wires around the bead. Twist both pairs of wires together for ¼ in. (6 mm).

**14** On one of the bottom wires, string three 4 mm rounds. Make a branch as in step 4. Twist both pairs of wires together a few times. Repeat on the top pair of wires. Attach branches with color B and color A bicones.

**15** On the shortest pair of wires, string a 6 mm round. Twist the remaining pair of wires around the bead. Twist



17



18



19

both pairs together for 1½ in. (3.8 cm). About ⅛ in. (3 mm) from the 6 mm round, make a wrapped loop. Trim the excess wire on the front of the vine, and tuck the ends.

**16** **necklace** • To make a bead connector: Cut a 3-in. (7.6 cm) piece of 22-gauge wire. On one end, make a wrapped loop. String a rectangle bead. Make a wrapped loop. Make eight connectors.

**17** Open a jump ring (Basics). Attach an end loop of the centerpiece and a connector. Close the jump ring. Repeat on the other side. On each side, use jump rings to connect three more connectors.

**18** Cut a 3½–4½-in. (8.9–11.4 cm) and a 1½–2½-in. (3.8–6.4 cm) piece of chain. On each end, use a jump ring to attach the loop of a connector and an end link

of chain. On the short chain, use a jump ring to attach a hook clasp (see instructions, p. 23).

**19** To make a bead unit: Cut a 3-in. (7.6 cm) piece of 26-gauge wire. Center a leaf bead on the wire and bend the ends together. Twist the wires. Make the first half of a wrapped loop. Attach the bead unit to the long chain and complete the wraps.

## What you'll need

### necklace 17–18½ in. (43–47 cm)

- ◆ 3 16–20 mm polymer clay flowers
- ◆ 4 16–18 mm leaf beads
- ◆ 8 12 mm glass rectangle beads
- ◆ 3 6 mm bicone crystals
- ◆ 12 4 mm bicone crystals, 6 each in colors A and B
- ◆ 4 6 mm round crystals
- ◆ 12 4 mm round crystals
- ◆ 3 in. (7.6 cm) 16-gauge wire or hook clasp
- ◆ 24 in. (61 cm) 22-gauge wire
- ◆ 4 yds. (3.7 m) 26-gauge dead-soft wire
- ◆ 5–7 in. (13–18 cm) oval cable chain, 4–5 mm links
- ◆ 2-in. (5 cm) 22-gauge head pin (optional)

- ◆ 11 4–5 mm 19-gauge jump rings
- ◆ 2 pairs of chainnose pliers
- ◆ roundnose pliers
- ◆ diagonal wire cutters
- ◆ hammer and bench block (optional)
- ◆ 6 mm mandrel or pen (optional)

### earrings

- ◆ 2 16–20 mm polymer clay flowers
- ◆ 2 16–18 mm leaf beads
- ◆ 2 6 mm bicone crystals
- ◆ 12 4 mm bicone crystals, 6 each in colors A and B
- ◆ 32 in. (81 cm) 26-gauge wire
- ◆ pair of earring wires
- ◆ 2 pairs of chainnose pliers
- ◆ roundnose pliers
- ◆ diagonal wire cutters

Polymer clay flowers available from Tooaquarius, [tooaquarius.etsy.com](http://tooaquarius.etsy.com). Czech glass rectangles from Bobbi's This n That, [bobbithisnthat.etsy.com](http://bobbithisnthat.etsy.com). Leaf beads from Garden of Beadin', [beadinseattle.com](http://beadinseattle.com) and Elisabeths Cottage by the Sea, 360.588.1890, [elisabethscottagebythesea.com](http://elisabethscottagebythesea.com). Check your local bead store for supplies. To find the nearest store, visit [beadshopfinder.com](http://beadshopfinder.com).

### Cheryl Parrott

Edmonds, Washington

Contact Cheryl at [cherylparrottjewelry@hotmail.com](mailto:cherylparrottjewelry@hotmail.com) or visit [cherylparrottjewelry.etsy.com](http://cherylparrottjewelry.etsy.com).





**1** **hook clasp** • Cut a 3-in. (7.6 cm) piece of 16-gauge wire. On one end, use the largest part of your roundnose pliers to make a half circle. Use your fingers to continue bending the wire into an open loop.

**2** About ½ in. (1.3 cm) below the loop, bend the wire around a mandrel or pen barrel in the opposite direction. Trim if necessary and use the tip of your roundnose pliers to bend the end out slightly. Gently hammer the hook on a bench block to flatten and work-harden the wire.

## A new leaf

You can use top-to-bottom drilled (standard) or pendant-style leaf beads. The instructions are for pendant-style. For standard leaves, in step 10, string the leaf and bend the wires up the back, twisting if desired.

For step 19, string the leaf on a head pin and make the first half of a wrapped loop. Attach the unit to the end link of chain and complete the wraps.



## 8 wire-twisting musts

**1** Practice twisting the wires first: If both wires are curved when you untwist them, you are likely twisting correctly. If only one wire is curved, you're incorrectly winding one wire around the other.

**2** Always twist the wires in the same direction. Keep the wires separated in a V shape and move your fingers incrementally down the wires, maintaining an even distance and tension as you go.

**3** Where possible, twist the bead instead of the wires. I generally hold the working wires in my right hand and twist the bead in my left. You can do the opposite — just be consistent.

**4** If you overtwist the wire, it can become brittle. Twist too loosely and your twist will look sloppy and can come apart easily.

**5** Always cut wire with the flush side of your cutters.

**6** Gently eliminate kinks in your wire as soon as they appear. If the working wires become tangled, gently pull them apart. Keeping the wires smooth makes it easier to string the beads.

**7** Monitor the length of your wires; if one group is shorter, switch to the longer group until the wires even out. If you run out of wire, you can splice the wires together at the bottom of a branch where it meets the vine, trimming and tucking the ends.

**8** Trim the excess wire on the front of the piece and tuck each end with chainnose pliers so it doesn't scratch your skin.



**1** **earrings** • Cut four 8-in. (20 cm) wires. Follow necklace steps 1 and 2 to make a wrapped loop. Twist the pairs together for ¼ in. (6 mm) below the loop.

**2** On one pair of wires, add a flower and bicone as in necklace step 8. Trim that pair of wires close to the vine.

**3** On the remaining wires, string a leaf bead, positioning it ½ in. (1.3 cm) below the flower. Bend the wires together, centering the leaf. Twist the wires three or four times.

**4** Add three 4 mm color A bicones as in necklace step 4. Twist the wires a few times. Add three color B bicones on the other side of the vine. Twist the wires

together a few times, then wrap them around the vine two or three times. Trim the excess wire.

**5** Open the loop of an earring wire (see Basics, p. 60) and attach the dangle. Close the loop. \*







*Did you know?*

SuperDuos come in nearly 300 colors. So go neon, metallic, Picasso, or whatever coating your heart desires!

# Stitch spring blooms

Two-hole beads make for pretty floral earrings

by Jane Danley Cruz

SuperDuos remind me of petals — perhaps it's the way they fit together so snugly when stitched side by side. I wanted to make earrings that were lightweight and had some length, sort of a flower shape. The center just begged for a pearl, but you could also use a crystal.

## What you'll need

### earrings

- ◆ 24 2.5 x 5 mm SuperDuo beads
- ◆ 2 4 mm round pearls
- ◆ stop bead
- ◆ 4 11° seed beads
- ◆ 16 15° seed beads
- ◆ Fireline 6 lb. test
- ◆ pair of earring wires
- ◆ beading needle, size 11
- ◆ chainnose pliers
- ◆ thread cutters or diagonal wire cutters

Check your local bead store for supplies. To find the nearest store, visit [beadshopfinder.com](http://beadshopfinder.com).

**Jane Danley Cruz**  
Grayslake, Illinois

Contact Jane at  
[jmdcruz262@gmail.com](mailto:jmdcruz262@gmail.com).





**1** **earrings** • For each earring: Cut a 24-in. (61 cm) piece of Fireline and thread a needle. Attach a stop bead on the end, leaving a 6-in. (15 cm) tail. Pick up a SuperDuo, an 11° seed bead, and eight 15° seed beads. Sew back through the first 15° and tighten the thread to form a loop.

**2** Pick up an 11° and a SuperDuo, then sew through the available hole of that SuperDuo in the opposite direction. Sew through the available hole of the first SuperDuo. Tighten the thread. (Note: I removed the stop bead for illustrative

purposes. You can remove it in step 8, if you like.)

**3** Pick up seven SuperDuos, and sew through the lower hole of the first two SuperDuos again to form a ring. Retrace the thread path through the inner holes of all the SuperDuos, tightening the thread.

**4** Pick up a pearl and sew through the inner hole of a SuperDuo opposite the one your thread exited at the start of this step.

**5** Sew back through the pearl and the SuperDuo

your thread exited at the start of step 4. Continue through the inner holes of the SuperDuos to exit the SuperDuo that is opposite the loop from step 1. Reverse direction by sewing through the available hole of the same SuperDuo. The pearl should sit atop the SuperDuos; don't push it inside the ring.

**6** Pick up a SuperDuo, and sew through the available hole of the same SuperDuo so your needle is pointing in the opposite direction. Snug up the bead. Pick up two SuperDuos, then sew through the

available hole of the SuperDuo you picked up last. Sew through the SuperDuo your thread exited at the start of this step. Retrace the thread path, tightening the thread.

**7** End the tail and threads by retracing their respective paths through a couple of beads and tying half-hitch knots (see below). Go through an adjacent bead and trim the excess thread close to the bead.

**8** Open the loop of an earring wire (see Basics, p. 60), and attach the loop of 15°s. Close the loop. \*

## Be super successful

- Keep the tension firm and consistent throughout.
- Because the coating sometimes blocks the holes in the SuperDuos, it's a good idea to check that the holes are clear. One way to do this: Poke your needle through one hole, then pick up the bead through the other hole.
- Retracing thread paths (particularly with the inner holes of the ring) will help you close up any gaps. If desired, leave a longer tail when stringing the stopper bead so you have a bit more to work with. Be careful trimming the thread after you've finished.

## Half-hitch knots

Exit a bead and form a loop between two beads that's perpendicular to and under the base thread (bridge). Go back over the bridge and through the loop.





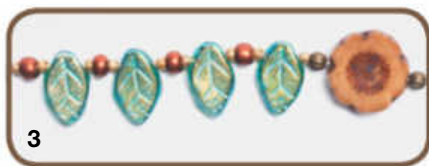
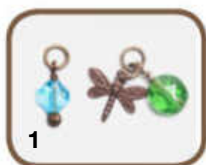


# Czech leaves bracelet

**Mixed Czech beads add interest to a simple accessory**

**by Kaye Kraus**

I'm inspired by the colors and textures found all around me in everyday life. Czech glass beads, whether colorful leaf shapes or embossed with flowers or birds, are the perfect way to capture my love of the outdoors. Use nature's color palettes as your guide, and you can't go wrong!



**1 bracelet •** To make a bead unit:  
On a head pin or ball pin, string a 3 mm spacer and a 6 mm bead. Make a wrapped loop (see Basics, p. 60). Open a jump ring (Basics) and attach the bead unit. Close the jump ring.

Make a second bead unit with an 8-9 mm bead (see "Jump bail," p. 27). Use a 4 mm jump ring to attach a charm and the bead unit to a 5-6 mm jump ring or bail.

**2** Cut a 14-in. (36 cm) piece of beading wire. String: glass rondelle, 3 mm spacer, cube bead, 3 mm spacer, 6-9 mm bead, the single bead unit from step 1.

**3** String an 11°, a 6°, and an 11° seed bead. String a leaf bead. Repeat three times. String an 11°. String a 3 mm spacer, a 12-15 mm shaped bead, and a 3 mm spacer.

**4** String assorted 6-16 mm beads, bead caps, spacers, and shaped beads. String a 6°, the charm and bead unit, and a glass rondelle.

**5** On one end, string a crimp bead, 11 11's, and the loop half of a toggle clasp (see "Make it work," p. 27). Go back through the crimp bead and tighten the wire. Check the fit and add or remove beads if necessary.

**6** On the other end, string a crimp bead and the bar half of a toggle clasp. Go back through the crimp bead and tighten the wire. Crimp the crimp beads (Basics) and close a crimp cover around each crimp. \*



## Jump bail

If using a bail instead of a 5–6 mm jump ring in step 2, make the first half of a wrapped loop on the bead unit, attach it to the bail, and complete the wraps.

## Make it work

If the 11°s won't go through the small loop of the toggle clasp, use a bead reamer to slightly enlarge the loop, or substitute 15° seed beads for the 11°s.

## What you'll need

### bracelet 7½ in. (19.1 cm)

- ◆ 3–4 12–16 mm beads
- ◆ 2–3 12–15 mm shaped Czech glass beads
- ◆ 4–5 13 mm Czech glass leaf beads
- ◆ 7–9 6–9 mm beads, assorted
- ◆ 6 mm cube bead
- ◆ 15–20 mm charm
- ◆ 2–4 3–4 mm glass rondelles
- ◆ 5–7 3 mm gemstone rondelles or 6° seed beads
- ◆ 2–6 3 mm beads
- ◆ 18–25 11° seed beads
- ◆ 1–3 9 mm spacers
- ◆ 7–9 3 mm spacers
- ◆ 2–6 9 mm bead caps
- ◆ flexible beading wire, .014. or .015
- ◆ 2 1½-in. (3.8 cm) head pins or ball pins
- ◆ 2 5–6 mm jump rings, or a jump ring and a bail
- ◆ 4 mm jump ring
- ◆ 2 crimp beads
- ◆ 2 crimp covers
- ◆ toggle clasp
- ◆ 2 pairs of chainnose pliers
- ◆ roundnose pliers
- ◆ diagonal wire cutters

Supplies from Hobby Lobby, [hobbylobby.com](http://hobbylobby.com). Check your local bead store for supplies. To find the nearest store, visit [beadshopfinder.com](http://beadshopfinder.com).

### Kaye Kraus

Dubuque, Iowa

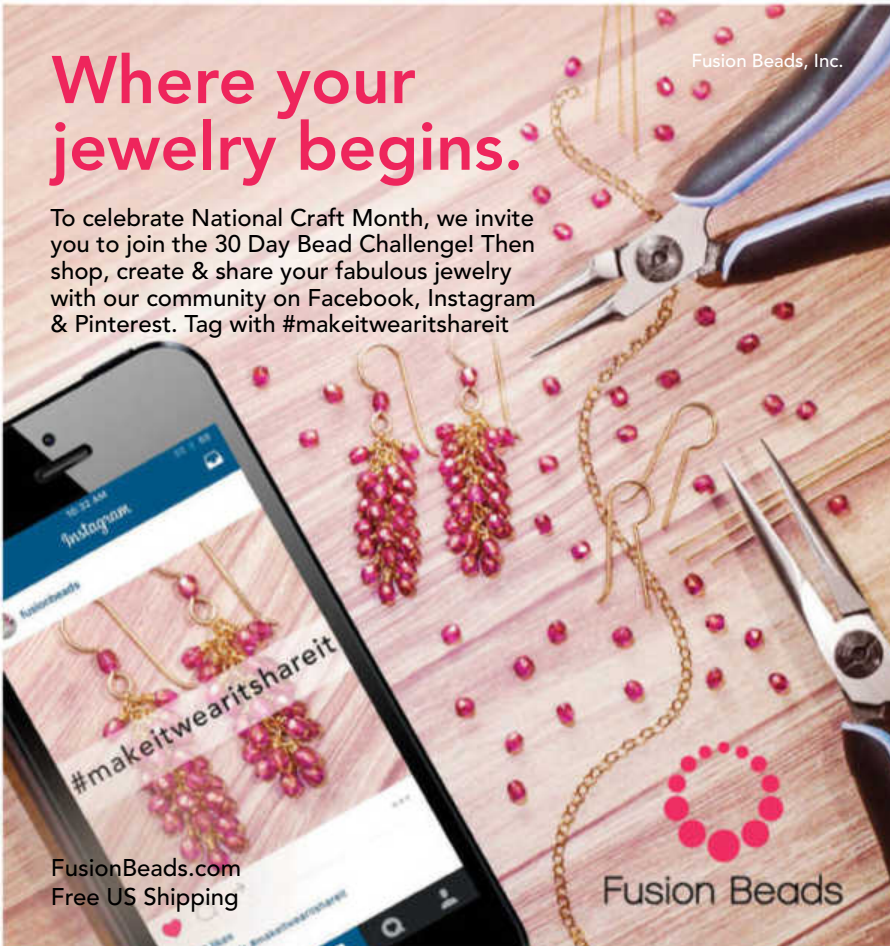
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# Custom clay pendant

by Diane Dick



This piece was a whimsical experiment with some newly purchased supplies (like the butterfly stamp). I've always felt most at home when working with my hands to create things, from new molecules — I'm a chemist — to gourmet cooking to jewelry designs. Enjoy your creative journey with clay!



**1** necklace • Place waxed paper on your work surface. For each half of the pendant: Use a craft knife to cut a thin slice of polymer clay. Condition the clay (see “Clay basics,” p. 29). Make two stacks of three to five playing cards. Use an acrylic roller to roll out the clay to the thickness of the card stacks. You'll want the finished clay to be about 1 mm thicker than the bezel depth.

**2** Texture each piece of clay. You can use the roller to go over the clay on a texture sheet, or use a rubber stamp.



**3** If desired, use a needle tool or stippling tool to create additional texture in the clay. Use the craft knife to cut each piece of textured clay on an angle.

**4** Splice the pieces together, then cut them to fit inside a pendant bezel. Gently press the clay so the surface is flush with the bezel. Use a paintbrush to apply mica powder to the surface. (If you'll be making the stamped imprints a different color, avoid those areas.)

**5** Set the oven temperature according to the manufacturer's directions and cure the bezeled clay





(see “Clay basics”). Allow to cool. Use a needle tool or safety pin to remove the clay from the bezel. Gently sand the surface of the piece to remove excess mica powder. Wipe the piece with a damp cloth and dry thoroughly.

**6** Use pens or metallic markers to embellish the stamped imprints. Allow to dry. Place in an oven for five minutes to heat seal the pigments. You could also use a paintbrush to apply a light coat of sealant to the cooled piece.

**7** Use two-part epoxy to glue the clay into the bezel. Allow to dry.

**8** If your pendant doesn’t have a bail, open a jump ring (see Basics, p. 60) and attach the loop. Close the jump ring. Cut a 17–18-in. (43–46 cm) piece of chain. Center the bail or jump ring on the chain.

**9** On one end, use a jump ring to attach a lobster claw clasp. Repeat on the other end, substituting a 6 mm jump ring or 3-in. (7.6 cm) extender chain for the clasp.

**10** On a head pin, string an accent bead. Make a plain loop (Basics). Attach the bead unit to the necklace or extender chain. \*

## Clay basics

- To condition your polymer clay, knead, twist, and fold it in your hands until it’s malleable.
- Use a bit of water on the roller to keep the clay from sticking to it.
- I used Sculpey Premo for these pendants, but there are other brands of polymer clay, so follow the manufacturer’s directions regarding the curing temperature (typically between 265 and 275 degrees).
- Polymer clay is nontoxic, so it’s safe to cure in a toaster oven or your home oven. If you use your home oven, check the temperature with an oven thermometer. This will help you avoid hot spots.
- Fold a small piece of aluminum foil to tent your piece as it cures. The foil will prevent burning as well as discoloration of light-colored clay.

## What you’ll need

### necklace 17–18 in. (43–46 cm)

- ♦ 2 2-oz. packages polymer clay, in two colors
- ♦ 25–30 mm pendant bezel
- ♦ 4–6 mm accent bead
- ♦ 17–18 in. (43–46 cm) chain, 4 mm links
- ♦ 1½-in. (3.8 cm) head pin
- ♦ 6 mm jump ring or 3-in. (7.6 cm) extender chain, 4–5 mm links
- ♦ 2–3 4–5 mm jump rings
- ♦ lobster claw clasp
- ♦ craft knife or tissue blade
- ♦ acrylic roller
- ♦ playing cards
- ♦ assorted rubber stamps, texture sheets, and/or stippling tool
- ♦ paintbrush
- ♦ mica powder pigments
- ♦ Sakura Gelly Roll pens and/or metallic markers
- ♦ 800-grit sandpaper
- ♦ two-part epoxy
- ♦ 2 pairs of chainnose pliers
- ♦ roundnose pliers
- ♦ diagonal wire cutters
- ♦ waxed paper
- ♦ toaster oven or polymer clay oven
- ♦ needle tool or safety pin (optional)
- ♦ clay sealant (optional)

Supplies from Michaels, [michaels.com](http://michaels.com). Check your local bead store for supplies. To find the nearest store, visit [beadshopfinder.com](http://beadshopfinder.com).

### Diane Dick

University Heights, Ohio

Contact Diane at [mail@mindfulmattersjewelry.com](mailto:mail@mindfulmattersjewelry.com) or visit [mindfulmatters.etsy.com](http://mindfulmatters.etsy.com).



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# Waves of glass



## String soothing sea glass for a multistrand jewelry set

by Lia Ketskhoveli

I love the ocean and wanted to create a necklace that would remind me of clear, blue saltwater with white-tipped waves. Playing with beads on my beading board, I found a pleasing balance between matte sea glass, shiny silver beads, and sparkling crystals.



**1** bracelet • Lay out two rows of beads and spacers as desired, each about 7 in. (18 cm) long, positioning larger beads toward the center and smaller beads on the ends. Rearrange as needed so the rows fit together nicely. Cut two 13-in. (33 cm) pieces of beading wire. On each wire, string the beads.

**2** On each end of each wire, string a round spacer, a crimp bead, and the corresponding loop of a two-to-one connector bar. Check the fit and add or remove beads if necessary. Go back through the beads just strung and tighten the wire. Crimp the crimp bead (see Basics, p. 60) and trim the excess wire. Close a crimp cover around the crimp.

**3** Open a jump ring (Basics) and attach the connector bar to a lobster claw clasp. Close the jump ring. On the other end, use a jump ring to attach a chain extender and a shell charm.

**4** Use a jump ring to attach a shell charm to the end link of chain.

## Supply note

True sea glass — tumbled by salt water — can be hard to come by. Try cultured sea glass; it's recycled glass that is given a matte finish. To give the piece dimension and the feel of weathered sea glass, choose beads in subtly different shades.



**1** **necklace** • Cut an 18-in. (46 cm), 20-in. (51 cm), and 22-in. (56 cm) piece of beading wire. On each wire, center round spacers with two, three, and four flat sea glass beads, respectively.

**2** On each end of the inner strand, string 11 in. (28 cm) of assorted beads, positioning larger beads toward the center and smaller beads on the ends. Repeat with the middle and outer strands, stringing 13 in. (33 cm) and 15 in. (38 cm) of beads, respectively.

**3** On each end of each wire, string a crimp bead and a jump ring. Go back through the last few beads strung and tighten the wire. Crimp the crimp beads (see Basics, p. 60) and trim the excess wire. Close a crimp cover around each crimp.

**4** Cut six 3-in. (7.6 cm) pieces of chain. On one strand, on each end, open the jump ring and attach an end link of chain. Close the jump rings. Repeat on the remaining strands.

**5** Check the fit and trim links if necessary to achieve a pleasing drape. Use jump rings to attach each end link to the corresponding loop of a three-to-one connector bar.

**6** Use a jump ring to attach a connector bar and a lobster claw clasp. Repeat on the other end, substituting a 7-in. (18 cm) chain for the clasp.

**7** Use a jump ring to attach a shell charm and the end link of chain.



**1 earrings** • For each earring: To make a bead unit: On a head pin, string a round spacer, a flat sea glass bead, and a round spacer. Make a plain loop (see Basics, p. 60). Make individual bead units using a metal coin, a sea glass coin, a bicone crystal, and a beaded metal spacer.

**2** Cut a five-link piece of chain. Open the loop of the flat sea glass unit (Basics) and attach an end link of chain. Close the loop.

**3** Open a jump ring and attach a shell charm to the next chain link. On the next link, attach a metal coin unit and a sea glass coin unit. On the front of the next link, attach a bicone unit and a beaded spacer unit.

**4** Open the loop of an earring wire and attach the dangle. Close the loop. \*



### Lia Ketskhoveli

Wanaque, New Jersey

Contact Lia at [ketskhosha@gmail.com](mailto:ketskhosha@gmail.com) or visit [charmations.etsy.com](http://charmations.etsy.com).



### Earring tip

Make sure you choose earring wires that are sturdy and long enough to handle the weight of the earring dangle.

## What you'll need

### all projects

- ◆ 2 pairs of chainnose or bentnose pliers
- ◆ diagonal wire cutters

### necklace 19½–23 in. (49.5–58 cm)

- ◆ 32 mm shell charm
- ◆ 2 27 mm oval metal beads
- ◆ 9 18–28 mm flat sea glass beads
- ◆ 4–6 18 mm sea glass nugget beads
- ◆ 5–7 15–16 mm rhombus metal beads
- ◆ 10–12 10–15 mm small sea glass nugget bead
- ◆ 10–12 12 mm puffed coin sea glass bead
- ◆ 2 23 mm faceted oval crystals
- ◆ 1–2 16 mm faceted cosmic crystals
- ◆ 2–4 10–11 mm metal coin beads
- ◆ 20–24 9 mm square sea glass spacers
- ◆ 6–10 8 mm bicone crystals
- ◆ 2–4 6 mm beaded metal spacers
- ◆ 9–11 6 mm heishi spacers
- ◆ 68–76 2.5 mm round spacers
- ◆ flexible beading wire, .014 or .015
- ◆ 26–28 in. (66–71 cm) rolo chain, 6 mm links

### bracelet 7½–8 in. (19.1–20 cm)

- ◆ 2 three-to-one connector bars
- ◆ 15 6 mm jump rings
- ◆ 6 crimp beads
- ◆ 6 crimp covers
- ◆ crimping pliers (optional)
- ◆ 3–5 18–28 mm flat sea glass beads
- ◆ 3–5 12 mm puffed coin sea glass beads
- ◆ 2 15–16 mm rhombus metal beads
- ◆ 2 16 mm faceted cosmic crystals
- ◆ 3 10–11 mm metal coin beads
- ◆ 11–15 9 mm square sea glass spacers
- ◆ 3 8 mm bicone crystals
- ◆ 6–8 6 mm beaded metal spacers
- ◆ 24–28 2.5 mm round spacers
- ◆ flexible beading wire, .014 or .015
- ◆ 1¾ in. (4.4 cm) rolo chain, 6 mm links
- ◆ 2 two-to-one connector bars
- ◆ 2 5 mm jump rings
- ◆ 4 crimp beads
- ◆ 4 crimp covers
- ◆ crimping pliers (optional)

### earrings

- ◆ 2 18–28 mm flat sea glass beads
- ◆ 2 12 mm sea glass coin beads
- ◆ 2 24 mm metal shell charms
- ◆ 2 10–11 mm metal coin beads
- ◆ 2 8 mm bicone crystals
- ◆ 2 6 mm beaded metal spacers
- ◆ 20 2.5 mm round spacers
- ◆ 2 in. (5 cm) rolo chain, 6 mm links
- ◆ 10 1½-in. (3.8 cm) head pins
- ◆ 2 4 mm jump rings
- ◆ pair of earring wires
- ◆ roundnose pliers

Cultured sea glass beads from Beadaholique, [beadaholique.com](http://beadaholique.com), and Antelope Beads, 720.287.2026, [antelopebeads.com](http://antelopebeads.com). Metal beads and charms from Fire Mountain Gems and Beads, 800.355.2137, [firemountaingems.com](http://firemountaingems.com), and Michaels, [michaels.com](http://michaels.com). Check your local bead store for supplies. To find the nearest store, visit [beadshopfinder.com](http://beadshopfinder.com).

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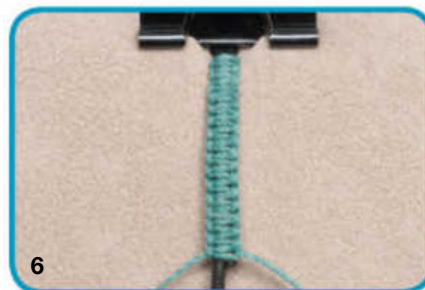
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Add beads to an easy macramé bracelet ♦ by Liz Chumtong

# 1 knot



Once you learn the basic square knot, play with beads and patterns to create new looks. Use waxed cord to help your knots stay in place.

**1** bracelet (above, left) • Cut a 12-in. (30 cm) piece of cotton cord and a 2-yd. (1.8 m) piece of waxed jewelry cord. Lightly burn each end of each cord to prevent fraying (see “Burn notice,” p. 35).

**2** Fold 2 in. (5 cm) of the cotton cord and pinch  $\frac{5}{8}$  in. (1.6 cm) from the end (see “On the button,” p. 23). This is your loop closure.

**3** Clip the loop to a workboard  $\frac{5}{8}$  in. (1.6 cm) from the fold. This is your base cord. Center the waxed nylon cord under the base cord.

**4** To make a square knot: Draw the left cord over the base cord, forming a loop. Draw the right cord over the left cord, under the base cord, and up through the loop on the left. Pull the knot tight to the base cord just below the clip.

# 3 bracelets



You can use beading wire as your base cord; it's perfect for gemstones and beads with small holes.

## Burn notice

You can use a lighter, candle, or thread burner to seal the cord ends. A thread burner leaves a cleaner end, but I prefer to use a lighter or candle because it leaves a bulbous end, preventing it from slipping back through the knot. Hold the cord end to the edge of the flame, not in it. When you see the cord begin to melt — it happens quickly — pull it away.

## On the button

I used 13 mm buttons in this project, but you can use a different size. Make sure to adjust your loop size in step 2 so it fits over the button.



**5** Draw the right cord over the base cord, forming a loop. Draw the left cord over the right cord, under the base cord, and up through the loop on the right. Pull the knot tight to the base cord, snugging it against the previous knot. You've completed your first square knot.

**6** Repeat steps 4 and 5, tying square knots until you reach the end of the doubled base cord. The knotted section will be about 1½ in. (3.8 cm).

**7** String a metal bead on the base cord. Pull the waxed cord around the bead and tie a square knot. String a round bead. Pull the waxed cord around the bead and tie a square knot. Repeat step 7 for 3–4 in. (7.6–10 cm), ending with a metal bead.

**8** About 2 in. (5 cm) from the last bead, fold the remaining base cord in half. Check the bracelet's length, trim the cord, and burn the end. String a button on the base cord, positioning it at the fold.

**9** Tie square knots over both base cords until the remaining loop is about ½ in. (1.3 cm) long. Trim the ends of the waxed cord 3 mm from the last knot. Carefully burn each end of the waxed cord, taking care not to burn the base cord or knots. Apply glue to the cord ends and allow to dry. \*

## What you'll need

### bracelet 7½ in. (19.1 cm)

- ◆ 13 mm button with shank
- ◆ 6–7 6 mm round beads
- ◆ 7–8 6 mm metal beads
- ◆ 12 in. (30 cm) 2 mm polished cotton cord
- ◆ 2 yd. (1.8 m) .8 mm waxed nylon jewelry cord
- ◆ diagonal wire cutters
- ◆ G-S Hypo Cement or glue
- ◆ lighter, candle, or thread burner
- ◆ workboard
- ◆ binder clip

Waxed nylon cord available from The Knotty Do-It-All, 760.929.0511, [theknottydoitall.com](http://theknottydoitall.com). Bronze beads, bone beads, and buttons from Saki, 513.307.6116, [sakisilver.com](http://sakisilver.com). Check your local bead store for supplies. To find the nearest store, visit [beadshopfinder.com](http://beadshopfinder.com).

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# Full circle *necklace*

by Alison Jayne Layton

Sharing memories and rediscovering cherished family treasures is priceless. Learn to wire an organic 'circle of life' link and attach your favorite mementos, vintage jewelry components inherited from loved ones, or just goodies from your stash in this eclectic slip-on necklace.

**1** **necklace** • To make a pendant unit: Cut a 4-in. (10 cm) piece of 24-gauge wire. About 1¼ in. (3.2 cm) from one end, string a crystalactite pendant. Bend each end up to form an X. Using chainnose pliers, bend each wire slightly to form a right angle above the bead. Wrap the horizontal wire around the vertical wire a few times. Trim the excess wire.

**2** On the wire, string a 22 mm cone, a 6 mm rondelle, and an 8 mm crystal. Make a wrapped loop (see Basics, p. 60).

**3** To make a decorative pearl unit: On a head pin, string: spacer, 5 mm bead cap, 8 mm rhinestone rondelle, 8 mm bead cap, 8 mm pearl. Make a wrapped loop. To make a single-bead unit: On a head pin, string a spacer and a 4 mm pearl. Make a wrapped loop.

**4** To make a bead connector: Cut a 3-in. (7.6 cm) piece of 24-gauge wire. On one end, make the first half of a wrapped loop. String a 6 mm pearl. Make the first half of a wrapped loop. Make a second bead connector with a

4-in. (10 cm) piece of wire, an 8 mm pearl, and a 12 mm cone.

**5** Attach the single-bead unit and connectors as shown, completing the wraps as you go.

**6** Cut a 2-in. (5 cm) piece of cup chain. On one end, attach a cup-chain end connector by folding in the sides and squeezing with your chainnose pliers.

**7** To make a wire link: Cut a 24-in. (61 cm) piece of 22-gauge wire. Leaving a 1-in. (2.5 cm) tail, bend



the wire into a 26–28 mm diameter circle. Make two more circles on top of the first.

**8** Bend the tail wire perpendicular to the circles. Make several tight wraps around the circles to secure. Trim the excess tail. Use chainnose pliers to flatten and tuck the end.

**9** Going around the circle several times, loosely wind the working wire around the circles, making several tight wraps in a few spots to secure. Wrap the end of the wire around the circles and use chainnose pliers to flatten and tuck the end.

**10** Open a jump ring (Basics) and attach the cup-chain connector and wire link. Close the jump ring. Use jump rings to attach the pendant unit and decorative pearl unit from step 3.

**11** Use a jump ring to attach a charm, the dangle from step 5, and the top of the wire link. Cut a

32–36-in. (81–91 cm) piece of ball chain. String it through the jump ring.

**12** Over both ends of the ball chain, string a 14 mm large-hole pearl. Fasten the chain's connector. \*

## What you'll need

### necklace 32 in. (81 cm)

- ◆ 56 mm crystalactite pendant
- ◆ 15 mm charm
- ◆ 14 mm Becharmed large-hole pearl
- ◆ 10 mm round crystal
- ◆ 2 8 mm pearls
- ◆ 6 mm pearl
- ◆ 4 mm pearl
- ◆ 8 mm rhinestone rondelle
- ◆ 6 mm rhinestone rondelle
- ◆ 2 2.5 mm round spacers
- ◆ 8 mm bead cap
- ◆ 5 mm bead cap
- ◆ 24 in. (61 cm) 22-gauge wire
- ◆ 11 in. (28 cm) 24-gauge wire
- ◆ 32–36 in. (81–91 cm) ball chain with connector
- ◆ 2 in. (5 cm) cup chain, 3 mm links
- ◆ cup-chain end connector
- ◆ 2 2-in. (5 cm) 24-gauge head pins

- ◆ 4 8–9 mm textured jump rings
- ◆ 22 mm floral cone
- ◆ 12 mm floral cone
- ◆ 2 pairs of chainnose pliers
- ◆ roundnose pliers
- ◆ diagonal wire cutters

Supplies from That Bead Lady, 905.954.1327, [thatbeadlady.com](http://thatbeadlady.com). Check your local bead store for supplies. To find the nearest store, visit [beadshopfinder.com](http://beadshopfinder.com).

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## Seasonally savvy selling

Capitalize on built-in sales opportunities ♦ by Cathy Frangie-Hatch

To everything there is a season, and that's certainly true of retail product sales. Take advantage of the public's tradition of buying jewelry and gifts for various holidays by updating your product mix and merchandising to reflect the current season or special occasion.



Customize your product mix seasonally — for example, with summer or winter bouquets.

### CREATE A PLAN

If you sell your jewelry in a boutique or collective, it may be impractical to alter your displays for every holiday. Timely updates, however, can definitely increase sales. Focus on those holidays, seasons, and special occasions that make sense for you as a jewelry designer, then create a calendar with reminders to adjust your product mix accordingly.

Strive to design items that will be appropriate for a particular holiday but generic enough that you can sell them afterward. (It's hard to sell Christmas tree earrings in May!) But what about those holidays that benefit from specific inventory — heart jewelry for Valentine's

Day, spooky styles for Halloween, or white pieces for wedding season?

Consider offering a selection of holiday-specific inventory in limited categories. Focus on items you can make up quickly and mix in with your everyday designs. For example, make a few earrings and bracelets in Christmas and Hanukkah color schemes, select complementary pieces from the rest of your collection, and display them together as gift ideas. Or make duplicates of an item in different colorways and switch them out according to the season, as Brenda Merry Arle ([merrymebouquets.etsy.com](http://merrymebouquets.etsy.com)) can do with her bouquets (see above).

### TARGET YOUR AUDIENCE

Who shops at your retail store? Knowing your customers and why they buy will help you determine what and how much product to offer.

Moms are likely to buy gifts for their children and for others. Teenagers tend to buy products for themselves. Tourists tend to buy souvenirs and gifts for folks back home.

Do some research beforehand. If you're selling in a collective or on consignment in a boutique and need advice about customer habits, ask the store owner to share information on seasonal buying patterns. Then use that information to target your offerings and price points.

### MIX PRODUCTS WISELY

Boost sales by providing shoppers with merchandise that appeals to their immediate needs. Holidays and special occasions are the ideal time to adjust your product mix to reflect occasions that are top-of-mind for your customer.

According to Ellen Swidler of Swiddles, Inc. ([swiddles.com](http://swiddles.com)), "My wine stoppers tend to sell best at holiday time. Along with a bottle of wine, they make great gifts for hostesses."

The stoppers are made with Swarovski crystals for extra bling and are enclosed in a purple organza bag: No gift wrapping necessary! Making gift giving



easier for your customers provides more incentive to purchase.

Here are a few items you could add to your seasonal product offerings:

- Summer: Children's and teens' necklaces, earrings, bracelets, and anklets; body jewelry; sun catchers.
- Christmas and Hanukkah: Wine stoppers and wineglass charms; pens; pins; serving utensils; photo frames.
- Mother's and Father's Day: Bookmarks; eyeglass chains; key chains.

These items are quick to make and can be a terrific add-on sale if you position them appealingly in your display or near the register.

If you're selling in a collective, take note of the vendors around you. Trading product with a scarf or handbag vendor, for example, might be a good way to add variety to your display. It's also a great way to get your jewelry into another section of the selling floor.

If you have a reseller's license, also consider bringing in outside products that complement your mix. (They may or may not be handmade, but before making any wholesale purchases, check with your store owner or contract for rules on what you can bring in.) Choose products that are good companions to the items you're currently selling and will also appeal to your target shopper, such as gloves, watches, headbands, and handbags.

Any opportunity to garner more sales adds to your bottom line. Would small travel cases or jewelry rolls be a good fit within your display? What about adding a few small jewelry boxes or decorative photo frames? And don't forget beaded ornaments for the Christmas holidays.

You can find wholesalers by doing a simple search by product type. Check out their websites and read their customer reviews; if their scores are high, they are probably a good bet.

Here are a few clothing and accessories wholesalers with small minimum order requirements:

- [bluebellwholesale.com](http://bluebellwholesale.com)
- [tuyahandbags.com](http://tuyahandbags.com)
- [trendsgal.com](http://trendsgal.com)
- [vividove.com](http://vividove.com)
- [wholesale24x7.com](http://wholesale24x7.com)
- [yktrading.com](http://yktrading.com)

Once you've introduced complementary items into your product mix, be sure to display them in a way that makes them feel like they are a natural part of the product line.

## INTEGRATE YOUR DISPLAYS

A word of caution: We all love to decorate and merchandise, but be careful not to let seasonal merchandise take over your entire display. Shoppers who don't celebrate the holiday or occasion can feel put-off by your décor and signage and bypass all your product offerings if that's all they see. Think strategically about both your inventory mix and how it's displayed

To showcase holiday-specific product, choose a small area within your space — a shelf, table, or one side of a rotating display. Don't forget to add signage that encourages customers to think, "Oh, I could use that." Remind them of the occasion by including holiday-specific messages, such as:

- Show some Valentine's Day love!



- Your mom will LOVE this!
- Wear your American pride on July 4!
- Jewelry treats — better than sweets!
- Great stocking stuffer!

Integrate other seasonal or special-occasion complementary merchandise into your mix by trying these ideas:

- For fall, pin a brooch on a scarf. Add it to a dress form with layered necklaces.
- Put an evening bag in a mirrored tray with statement earrings or a bracelet for New Year's Eve.
- Display small jewelry boxes in your ring display for wedding season.
- Place eyeglass chains on a T-bar display and prop it on a table with your necklaces for Mother's Day.
- Hang sun catchers in a window or on a wall next to your bracelets in summer.
- For a stocking stuffer, add a small rotating display of beaded bookmarks next to your earring display.

While gift items are top of mind at holiday time, don't forget to encourage gift purchases throughout the year as well. Sprinkle a few general signs throughout your display, such as:

- Need a birthday gift?
- Great for entertaining!
- Start decorating!
- Fun gift idea!

The easier your displays are to shop, and the more strategic you are about pairing seasonal merchandise with your regular offerings, the more shoppers will feel that specialty items make sense to purchase from your store. Encourage repeat business by regularly refining your product mix to keep your shop looking fresh and current. \*

*Cathy Frangie-Hatch was recently named Best Jewelry Designer 2015 by the Myrtle Beach Award Program. She launched Bold by Kattour Jewelry 10 years ago, and her business quickly grew into an obsession. Contact Cathy at [boldbykattour@aol.com](mailto:boldbykattour@aol.com) or via [boldbykattour.com](http://boldbykattour.com).*



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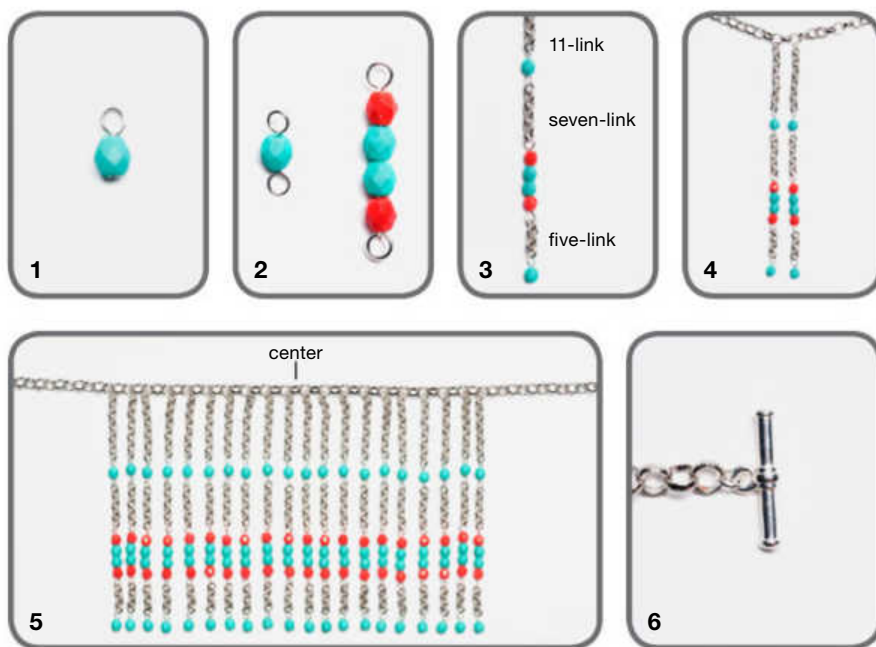
# Fringed chain *necklace*



Add beads to chain  
dangles to make a  
swingy bib

by Allison Hoffmann

Fringe is in, so I created it in my favorite color combinations for this on-trend design. Play with chain lengths, color palettes, and bead patterns to customize your own look. If you can make a plain loop, you can make this necklace!



**1** necklace • Trim 20 head pins to  $\frac{5}{8}$  in. (1.6 cm). To make a bead unit: On a head pin, string a color A bead. Make a plain loop (see Basics, p. 60). Make 20 color A bead units.

**2** To make a single-bead connector: Trim 20 1-in. (2.5 cm) eye pins to  $\frac{5}{8}$  in. (1.6 cm). On an eye pin, string a color A bead. Make a plain loop. Make 20 color A single-bead connectors. To make a four-bead connector: On a  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -in. (3.8 cm) eye pin, string a color B, two color As, and a color B. Make a plain loop. Make 20 four-bead connectors.

**3** To make dangles: Cut 20 five-link, seven-link, and 11-link pieces of 3.5 mm rolo chain. Open the loop of a bead unit (Basics) and attach an end link of five-link chain. Close the loop.

Use a four-bead connector to attach the other end link of five-link chain and an end link of seven-link chain. Use a single-bead connector to attach the seven-link chain and an end link of 11-link chain. Make 20 dangles.

**4** Cut an 18–20-in. (46–51 cm) piece of 5 mm rolo chain with an odd number of links. On each side of the center link, open a jump ring and attach a dangle. Close the jump ring.

**5** On each side, attach nine more dangles, skipping a link between each one.

**6** Check the fit and trim links on each end if necessary. On each end, use a jump ring to attach an end link and half of a clasp.

## What you'll need

### necklace 18–20 in. (46–51 cm)

- ◆ 120 4 mm round fire-polished beads, 80 in color A, 40 in color B
- ◆ 18–20 in. (46–51 cm) rolo chain, 5 mm links
- ◆ 60 in. (1.55 m) rolo chain, 3.5 mm links
- ◆ 20  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -in. (3.8 cm) 22-gauge eye pins
- ◆ 20 1-in. (2.5 cm) 22-gauge eye pins
- ◆ 22 4 mm jump rings
- ◆ toggle clasp
- ◆ 2 pairs of chainnose or bentnose pliers
- ◆ roundnose pliers
- ◆ diagonal wire cutters

### earrings

- ◆ 30 4 mm round fire-polished beads, 18 in color A and 12 in color B
- ◆ 2 in. (5 cm) rolo chain, 3.5 mm links
- ◆ 2 three-to-one connector bars
- ◆ 6 1-in. (2.5 cm) 22-gauge head pins
- ◆ 6  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -in. (3.8 cm) 22-gauge eye pins
- ◆ pair of earring wires
- ◆ 2 pairs of chainnose pliers
- ◆ roundnose pliers
- ◆ diagonal wire cutters

Supplies from Fusion Beads, 888.781.3559, [fusionbeads.com](http://fusionbeads.com). Check your local bead store for supplies. To find the nearest store, visit [beadshopfinder.com](http://beadshopfinder.com).

**Allison Hoffmann**

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Contact Allison at [info@fusionbeads.com](mailto:info@fusionbeads.com).



## Helpful hints

- Mark the jaws of your roundnose pliers to help you make uniformly sized loops for the bead units and connectors.
- If you can't find  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -in. (3.8 cm) 22-gauge eye pins, buy 2-in. (5 cm) eye pins and trim them. Trim all your eye pins before you begin.

- To make your own eye pins, cut a 2-in. (5 cm) piece of wire. On one end, make a plain loop (see Basics, p. 60).
- To cut your chain evenly, cut the first piece and string it on a wire or head pin. String the remaining chain and trim to the same length as the first piece. Repeat as necessary.



earrings • For each earring: Make three bead units as in necklace step 1. Make three four-bead connectors as in necklace step 2.

1

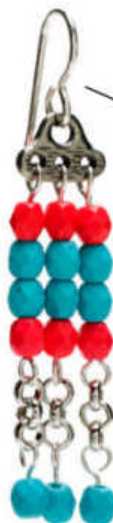
Cut three three-link pieces of chain. Open a loop of each bead unit (see Basics, p. 60) and attach an end link of each chain. Close each loop. Attach a four-bead connector to the other end.

2



3

Attach a chain dangle to each of the bottom holes of a connector bar. Open the loop of an earring wire and attach the dangle. Close the loop. \*



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# Dainty drops necklace



Showcase your gemstone stash in a harmonious Y-necklace

by Karen Lerner

I'm fascinated by the spiritual meanings behind gemstones. In my necklace on the opposite page, prehnite facilitates spiritual communication through meditation and lucid dreams. Turquoise, with its opaque, soothing color, is the stone of protection. And carnelian's bold color is said to motivate and inspire. Mix colors and textures (and even metals) in jewelry that makes you feel feminine and confident.



Use both smooth and faceted tourmaline for a necklace that's filled with visual contrast.

## components



**1 briolette units** • Cut a 6-in. (15 cm) piece of wire. About 1 in. (2.5 cm) from one end, string a 15–18 mm briolette and make a set of wraps above it (see Basics, p. 60).



**2** Make the first half of a wrapped loop (Basics) perpendicular to the briolette. Make four to six briolette units with 5–6 mm briolettes and 4-in. (10 cm) pieces of wire.



**bead units** • On a head pin, string a 3–5 mm bead. Make the first half of a wrapped loop. Make 22 to 25 bead units, including some on ball pins if desired.



**rondelle units** • Cut a 1½-in. (3.8 cm) piece of wire. On one end, use the tip of your roundnose pliers to make a tiny loop. String a rondelle and make the first half of a wrapped loop. Make 20 to 25 rondelle units.



**connectors** • Cut a 2-in. (5 cm) piece of wire. Make the first half of a wrapped loop. String a rondelle or round bead and make the first half of a wrapped loop. Make three to seven connectors.



Attach two bead units or rondelle units to the loop of the briolette unit and complete the wraps. Attach a bead unit or briolette unit to each chain link. Leave the last 1/2 in. (1.3 cm) of chain unembellished.

5

Check the fit, allowing 1 1/2 in. (3.8 cm) for finishing, and trim chain from each end if necessary. On one end, use a connector to attach an end link and a lobster claw clasp.

6

On the other end, use a connector to attach an end link and a chain extender or a chain of connectors. Attach a 5–6 mm briolette unit to the end. \*

4

On each side of the center link, attach bead units and rondelle units in small clusters to about 2 in. (5 cm) of chain as desired.

3

Cut a 16–17-in. (41–43 cm) piece of 3 mm-link chain with an odd number of links. On one end of a connector loop, attach the dangle. On the other loop, attach the center link of long chain. Attach two rondelle units to the upper loop.

2

1

**necklace** • Make the components (p. 46). To make the dangle: Cut a 1 1/2-in. (3.8 cm) piece of 2 mm-link chain. On one end, attach the 15–18 mm briolette unit. Complete the wraps, covering the top of the bead. Wrap back toward the loop and trim the excess wire.

## Supply notes

- Many gemstone beads have tiny holes, so make sure to use 26-gauge (or thinner) head pins and wire.
- The supply list will vary greatly depending on how many rondelle units versus bead units you make. You can complete this project without any head pins: For all beads, follow the instructions for the rondelle units.
- If you don't have ball pins, you can also string a metallic 13° or 15° seed bead on a head pin.

## What you'll need

### necklace 17–18 in. (43–46 cm)

- ◆ 15–18 mm briolette
- ◆ 7–9 5–6 mm briolettes
- ◆ 5–7 3–5 mm beads
- ◆ 40–50 2–3 mm rondelles or round beads, in two or three colors
- ◆ 6–11 ft. (1.83–3.35 m) 26- or 28-gauge wire
- ◆ 16–17 in. (41–43 cm) cable chain, 3 mm links
- ◆ 1 1/2 in. (3.8 cm) chain, 2 mm links
- ◆ 22–25 1 1/2-in. (3.8 cm) 26-gauge head pins and/or ball pins
- ◆ lobster claw clasp
- ◆ 2 pairs of chainnose pliers
- ◆ roundnose pliers
- ◆ diagonal wire cutters

Check your local bead store for supplies. To find the nearest store, visit [beadshopfinder.com](http://beadshopfinder.com).

### Karen Lerner

Portland, Oregon

Contact Karen at [shukimom@aol.com](mailto:shukimom@aol.com) or visit [nakedplanetjewelry.etsy.com](http://nakedplanetjewelry.etsy.com).





# Circle of love bracelet

Connect love knots for a classic chain mail bracelet

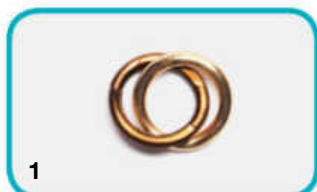
by Jennifer Pike

This bracelet was inspired by my oldest daughter, who also likes to make jewelry. The love knot is one of her favorite chain mail techniques. Although this bracelet may look complicated, it's as easy as opening and closing a jump ring. Once you master the first knot, the rest is a breeze!



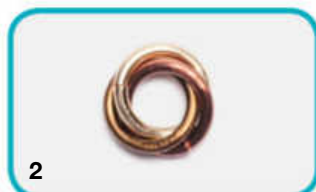
## Right or left

Your jump rings will spiral to the right or left depending on whether you're right- or left-handed. Either way is fine; just be consistent throughout.

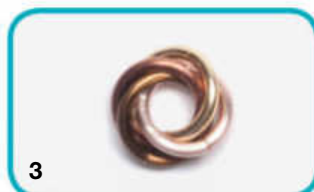


**1** bracelet • See “Tip,” right. To make a love knot: Open all the jump rings (see Basics, p. 60). Close a color A jump ring. Slide a color B jump ring through the color A jump ring. Close the ring. Lay the jump rings on your work surface, nesting them together.

**2** Slide a color C jump ring through the center of both previous jump rings. Lay them on your work



surface and make sure they are nesting correctly, all spiraling in the same direction. If they aren't, flip over the color C jump ring (see “Right or left,” above).



**3** Slide a color D jump ring through the center of all previous jump rings. Nest the jump rings together as in step 2. This is a love knot. Make 18 to 20 love knots.

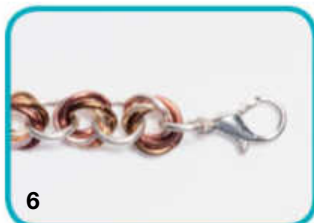
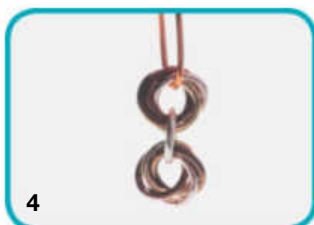
## Tip

Make sure to open your color E jump rings wide enough to accommodate two knots from the start. It will save you a lot of frustration!

## Tool dip

To protect jump rings from becoming marred, apply a product such as Tool Magic to your pliers' jaws. Dip the pliers in the solution and let dry overnight. You can peel off and reapply the coating as needed.





**4** Cut a 6-in. (15 cm) piece of wire and fold it in half. String a love knot on the wire. Slide a color E jump ring through the center of a love knot. Slide it through the center of the love knot on the wire. Close the jump ring.

**5** Use color E jump rings to attach a new knot to the previous knot, until the section is within 1½ in. (3.8 cm) of the finished length. (Holding the scrap wire to hang the chain will make it easier to add subsequent knots.)

**6** Remove the wire. On one end, slide a color E jump ring through the center of the last knot and the loop of a lobster claw clasp. On the other end, attach five to seven consecutive jump rings to the end knot.

**7** To make a dangle: On a head pin, string a 3–5 mm bead. Make a plain loop (Basics). Open the loop and attach it to the last jump ring. Close the loop.

## What you'll need

### bracelet 7–7 ¾ in. (18–19.7 cm)

- ◆ 3–5 mm bead
- ◆ 95–105 5 mm 18-gauge jump rings, 18–20 each in colors A, B, C, and D, and 23–25 in color E
- ◆ 6 in. (15 cm) scrap wire
- ◆ 1-in. (2.5 cm) head pin
- ◆ lobster claw clasp
- ◆ 2 pairs of chainnose, bentnose, or flatnose pliers
- ◆ roundnose pliers
- ◆ diagonal wire cutters
- ◆ Tool Magic (optional)

### earrings

- ◆ 30 5 mm 18-gauge jump rings, 6 each in colors A, B, C, D, and E
- ◆ 5 in. (13 cm) cable chain, 3–4 mm round links
- ◆ pair of earring wires
- ◆ 2 pairs of chainnose, bentnose, or flatnose pliers
- ◆ diagonal wire cutters

Jump rings from Weave Got Maille, 855.462.4553, [weavegotmaille.com](http://weavegotmaille.com). Check your local bead store for supplies. To find the nearest store, visit [beadshopfinder.com](http://beadshopfinder.com).

### Jennifer Pike

Oro Valley, Arizona

Contact Jennifer via [westminsterstudios.etsy.com](http://westminsterstudios.etsy.com).



“Your best inspiration is always the world around you, whether it’s the colors of nature as the seasons change or the ideas of your children.”

**earrings** • Follow steps 1 to 3 of the bracelet. Make three love knots. Cut a three-link, a seven-link, and an 11-link piece of chain. Open a color E jump ring (see Basics, p. 60) and attach a knot to an end link of each chain.

**1**



**2**

Open the loop of an earring wire. Attach the end link of each chain and close the loop. Make a second earring to match the first. \*







# Rhinestone rhapsody

Create a sparkling  
statement necklace  
in five easy steps

by Natalie Smith

Spread out a bag of assorted acrylic rhinestones, experimenting with different shapes, patterns, and color combinations, until a particular design catches your eye. Sometimes, by limiting your supplies, you'll be able to push your creative powers to their highest potential.



**1** **necklace** • Cut a piece of parchment paper and lay it on your work surface. Cut a 9-in. (23 cm) square of tulle and lay it on top of the parchment paper. Lay out your design on top of the tulle. Take a photo of your design for reference.



**2** Starting at the center and working outward, carefully coat the back of each rhinestone with glue and place it back on the tulle base. Continue until you've attached all the stones except the last one on each end.



**3** Cut two 18-in. (46 cm) pieces of satin ribbon. Apply glue to one end of each ribbon and position it on the tulle under the spot for the last rhinestone. Glue the final rhinestones in place, covering the ribbon ends. Let the piece dry for 5 to 10 minutes.



**4** Carefully peel the tulle off the parchment, turn the piece face down, and allow it to dry for several hours. Note: Felt circles on the back of the necklace will make it more comfortable. Apply a drop of adhesive to the back of the larger stones and attach a circle or two. Allow to dry completely.

## What you'll need

### necklace 20–24 in. (51–61 cm)

- ◆ 1 lb. bag of assorted acrylic rhinestones
- ◆ 36 in. (.9 m) satin ribbon, 3/8 in. (1 cm) width
- ◆ 9 in. (23 cm) flesh-toned tulle
- ◆ Aleene's Fabric Fusion or Gem-Tac adhesive
- ◆ Dritz Fray Check
- ◆ parchment paper
- ◆ scissors

- ◆ 40–60 1/2-in. (1.3 cm) felt circles (optional)

Felt circles from ifeltsprightly.etsy.com; acrylic rhinestones from sparklebeastsupplies.etsy.com. Remaining supplies at Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft stores, joann.com. Check your local bead store for supplies. To find the nearest store, visit beadshopfinder.com.

**5** Carefully trim the excess tulle from the perimeter, making sure to avoid the ribbon. Trim the ends of the ribbon evenly and apply Fray Check to the ends. Allow to dry. \*

### Natalie Smith

Sterling, Virginia

Contact Natalie at [natalielynnsmith@gmail.com](mailto:natalielynnsmith@gmail.com) or visit [sparklebeastdesign.etsy.com](http://sparklebeastdesign.etsy.com).



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Meet Speedy **Susan**

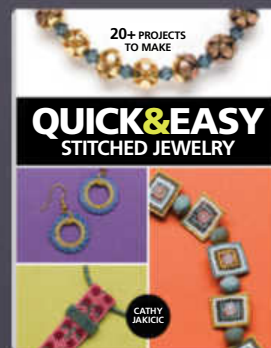
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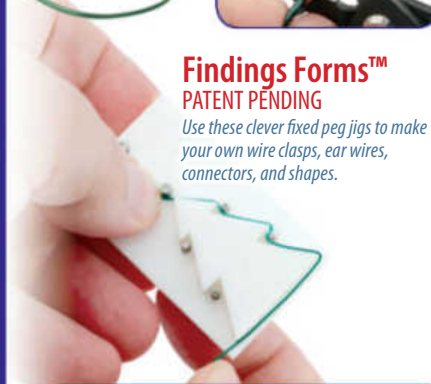
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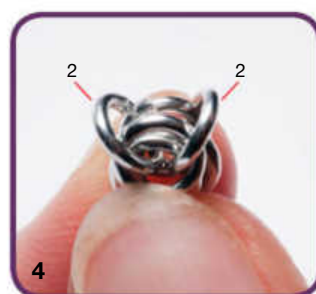
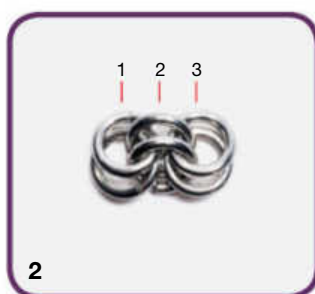
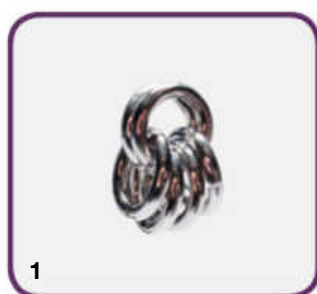


**Ringleader**  
*necklace*

# Connect chain mail, leather, and crystal for a knockout look

by Kate Striepen

This necklace started with the leather — I loved the color! Half-Byzantine chain mail units connect the pieces, and the Swarovski navette pendant adds just the right amount of sparkle. If you want a longer necklace, add extra sets of jump rings and chain mail units before attaching the leather.



**1 necklace** • Open all the jump rings (see Basics, p. 60). Close four 4 mm jump rings. Slide a 4 mm jump ring through the four closed jump rings. Close the jump ring. Attach a second 4 mm jump ring through the first four jump rings.



**2** Separate the jump rings into three pairs. This is the start of a half-Byzantine unit. Make 11 units.

**3** Holding an end pair of jump rings on a half-Byzantine unit, fold the opposite end pair of jump rings back, positioning one on each side of the first pair of jump rings.

**4** Separate the middle pair of jump rings, exposing the top of the jump rings pushed back in step 3 (see “Open the gap,” right).

**5** Slide a 9.5 mm jump ring through the space between the third pair and the first pair of jump rings.

**6** Make and attach two more half-Byzantine

units to the 9.5 mm jump ring. Close the jump ring.

**7a** To make a side unit: Make and attach another half-Byzantine unit to a new 9.5 mm jump ring. Before

closing the 9.5 mm jump ring, attach an end pair of jump rings from a previous half-Byzantine unit.

**b** Repeat step 7a so there is a total of three 9.5 mm jump rings.

## Open the gap

To help open the space between the first and third jump ring pairs so you can slide another jump ring through in step 5, you can use a beading awl or needle tool. Slide the tip of the tool under the top of the third pair of jump rings, above the first pair of jump rings, and between the middle pair of jump rings. Hold the jump rings firmly, slide the tool out, and slide the 9.5 mm jump ring into the gap.





“Keep experimenting to find new and interesting uses for your beads, jump rings, clasps — the possibilities are endless.”



8

**8** On each end, attach three more half-Byzantine units using a 6.3 mm jump ring, a 9.5 mm jump ring, and a 6.3 mm jump ring.



9

**9** Cut a 10–13-in. (25–33 cm) piece of leather cord. String an end pair of jump rings, centering the rings on the cord. String two 3.6 mm jump rings over both ends of the cord, gently pushing them toward the fold. Repeat on the other side.

**10** Apply a dab of glue to a pinch end and insert the pair of cords. Using chainnose pliers, squeeze each side of the pinch end closed. Repeat on the other side.



10

**11** To make a chain extender: Attach eight consecutive 4.4 mm jump rings. On the last jump ring, attach a love knot if desired (see “Love knot how-to,” right).

**12** On one end of the necklace, use a 3.6 mm jump ring to attach a lobster claw clasp to the pinch end. Repeat on the other side, substituting the chain extender for the clasp.

**13** In the center of the necklace, attach a 9.5 mm jump ring to the end pair of jump rings in the remaining half-Byzantine unit. Use a 6 mm jump ring to attach the 9.5 mm jump ring and a crystal pendant. Close the jump ring. \*



11



12



13

## Love knot how-to

To add a love knot to the end of a chain extender:

1. Open a 4.4 mm jump ring. Attach it to the last link of the extender. Close the jump ring.
2. Attach a second 4.4 mm jump ring to the end link of the extender, then go down and out through the back of the jump ring from step 1 before closing the ring.
3. Repeat step 2 with a third and fourth jump ring, going down and out through the back of all previous jump rings each time.

## What you'll need

**necklace 16½–18½ in. (41.9–47 cm)**

- ◆ 30 mm navette crystal pendant
- ◆ 6 9.5 mm ID (inner diameter) 16-gauge jump rings
- ◆ 4 6.3 mm (ID) 16-gauge jump rings
- ◆ 6 mm (ID) 18-gauge jump ring
- ◆ 8–12 4.4 mm (ID) 18-gauge jump rings

- ◆ 66 4 mm (ID) 18-gauge jump rings
- ◆ 6 3.6 mm (ID) 18-gauge jump rings
- ◆ 20–26 in. (51–66 cm) leather cord, 2 mm diameter
- ◆ 2 5 mm pinch ends
- ◆ lobster claw clasp
- ◆ 2 pairs of chainnose, bentnose, or flatnose pliers

- ◆ diagonal wire cutters or scissors
- ◆ glue or jeweler's cement
- ◆ beading awl or needle tool (optional)

Leather and crystal pendant from Artbeads.com, 866.715.2323. Jump rings from Blue Buddha Boutique, 866.602.7464, bluebuddhaboutique.com. Check your local bead store for supplies. To find the nearest store, visit beadshopfinder.com.

### Kate Striepen

University Place,  
Washington

Contact Kate at  
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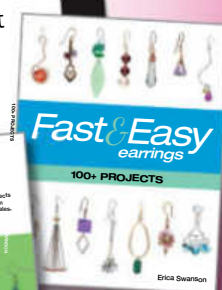
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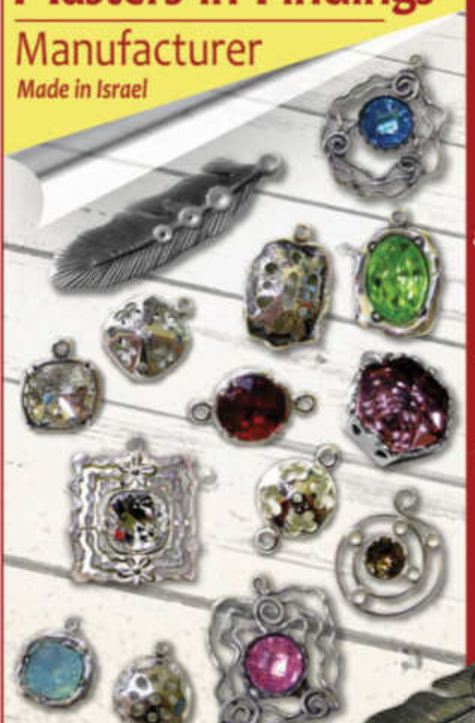
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15



16

### Cutting flexible beading wire

**1** Decide how long you want your necklace or bracelet to be. Add 6 in. (15 cm) and cut a piece of beading wire to that length.

### Flattened crimp

**2** Hold the crimp bead with the tip of your chainnose pliers. Separate the wires and squeeze the pliers firmly to flatten the crimp bead. Tug the clasp to make sure the crimp has a solid grip on the wire. If the wire slides, remove the crimp bead and repeat with a new crimp bead.

**3** The flattened crimp.

### Folded crimp

**4** Position the crimp bead in the notch closest to the crimping pliers' handle.  
**5** Separate the wires and firmly squeeze the crimp bead.  
**6** Move the crimp bead into the notch at the pliers' tip. Squeeze the pliers, folding the bead in half at the indentation.  
**7** The folded crimp.

### Folded crimp end

**8** Glue one end of the cord and place it in a crimp end. Use chainnose pliers to fold one side of the crimp end over the cord.  
**9** Repeat with the second side of the crimp end and squeeze gently.

### Opening a jump ring or loop

**10** Hold the jump ring or loop with two pairs of chainnose or bentnose pliers.  
**11** To open the jump ring or loop, bring one pair of pliers toward you.  
**12** The open jump ring. Reverse the steps to close.

### Attaching a clasp

**13** For a two-piece clasp, on each end, string: spacer, crimp bead, spacer, Wire Guardian (optional), half of a clasp. Check the fit, and add or remove beads if necessary. Go back through the beads just strung and tighten the wire. Crimp the crimp bead and trim the excess wire.  
**14** Or, follow step 13 to attach a lobster claw clasp on one end and a soldered jump ring or chain extender on the other.

### Square knot

**15** Cross the left end over and under the right end.  
**16** Cross the right end over and under the left end. Pull both ends to tighten the knot.



17



18



19



20



21



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23



24



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26



27



28



29



30



31

### Surgeon's knot

**17** Cross the right end over the left and go through the loop. Go through again. Cross the left end over the right and go through. Pull the ends to tighten the knot.

### Overhand knot

**18** Make a loop and pass the working end through it. Pull the ends to tighten the knot.

### Plain loop

**19** Trim the wire  $\frac{3}{8}$  in. (1 cm) above the bead. Make a right-angle bend close to the bead.  
**20** Grab the wire's tip with roundnose pliers. Roll the wire to form a half circle.  
**21** Reposition the pliers in the loop and continue rolling, forming a centered circle above the bead.  
**22** The finished loop.

### Wrapped loop

**23** Make sure there is at least  $1\frac{1}{4}$  in. (3.2 cm) of wire above the bead. With the tip of your chainnose pliers, grasp the wire directly above the bead. Bend the wire (above the pliers) into a right angle.  
**24** Position the jaws of your roundnose pliers vertically in the bend.  
**25** Bring the wire over the pliers' top jaw.  
**26** Reposition the pliers' lower jaw snugly in the curved wire. Wrap the wire down and around the bottom of the pliers. This is the first half of a wrapped loop.  
**27** Grasp the loop with chainnose pliers.  
**28** Wrap the wire tail around the wire stem, covering the stem between the loop and the bead. Trim the excess wrapping wire, and press the end close to the stem with chainnose or crimping pliers.

### Making a set of wraps above a top-drilled bead

**29** Center a top-drilled bead on a 3-in. (7.6 cm) piece of wire. Bend each end upward, crossing the wires into an X.  
**30** Using chainnose pliers, make a small bend in each wire to form a right angle.  
**31** Wrap the horizontal wire around the vertical wire as in a wrapped loop. Trim the excess wrapping wire. \*





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Rachel Frye  
January 2016

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# Rising star Ida Rodriguez



Quilling paper lends its unique whimsy to jewelry making



## About me

I was born and raised in El Paso, Texas. I work for the El Paso Public Library as an Information Senior Specialist. I also teach citizenship classes and head up teen services for our branch. At night, I craft every chance I get.

## My jewelry-making start

I've been crafting since I was a kid, but I was interested in learning something new. So about 10 years ago, I picked up a beading kit and fell in love. It has since become a family affair, with everyone supporting my love of creating: My son and daughter-in-law gave me a beading loom for Christmas, and when they take day trips, I tag along to stop at the bead shop. My mom and daughter also help me at craft fairs, and my mom is my best sales lady and PR rep!

## What inspires me

I started using paper as a medium for jewelry when I realized there were so many untapped design possibilities. Quilling paper is such fun to work with — you can mold it into any shape you want. One of my goals is to cut different types and textures of quilling paper myself, instead of just using what's on the market today.

## Tried & true quilling techniques

I use quilling paper strips that measure about 1/8 inch wide and 24 inches long; you can buy the paper in multicolored packs at your local craft store. I use a slotted quilling tool to make a roll or circle by twirling the paper around it, then letting the paper unroll a bit to shape it.

My other go-to technique is husking, where I fold the paper around an object (like the teeth of a comb) to form loops of different sizes. I use both techniques when shaping my flower earrings, gluing individual pieces and layering paper for added support. Then I glaze each piece with a couple layers of paper glaze. Even though quilled flowers look lacy and delicate, they're actually very durable.

## Paper flower power

My pieces have evolved from basic ovals and diamonds to stacked flowers with some dimension to them. My vision is to keep evolving and not only learn new techniques but develop some of my own as well. I want to take paper quilling to a whole new level and expose this beautiful craft to others who have never heard of it.

## The road to selling

From meeting new people to crafting something I can be proud of, jewelry making has certainly changed my life. When people started asking to buy my jewelry, I figured selling it would help fund my bead addiction. The majority of my sales are word of mouth; I'll get requests for pieces I've made for myself or another client, but in different colors or sizes. I also have an Etsy shop and attend a couple of local craft fairs every year — my paper earrings are usually my best sellers. It's easier to market my work at the fairs: Customers can feel the textures, see the colors, and test the sturdiness of the paper firsthand. Also, I can talk about my pieces and answer any questions on the spot. \*

Contact Ida via [creativetypeofgirl.com](http://creativetypeofgirl.com).

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